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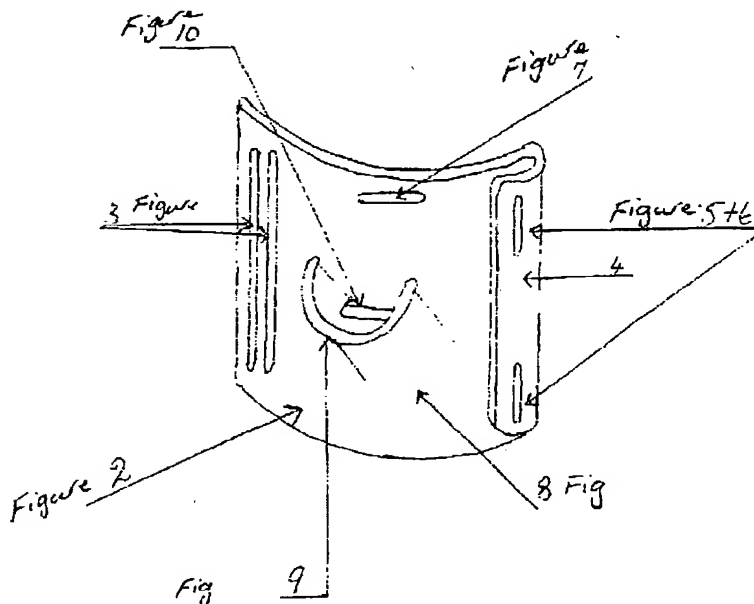
- as to the identity of the inventor (Rule 4.17(i)) for all des-ignations
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
- as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rule 4.17(v)) for all designations

Published:

- with international search report
- with a declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or ex-ceptions to lack of novelty

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FISHING ROD SUPPORT HOLDER



(57) Abstract: Fishing rod holder that is strapped to the thigh comprising curved plate (2), slots (3) to enable first strap to be secured to curved plate (2), upturned edge (4) for buckle to hook on to with other end of first strap, slots (5, 6) for buckle and clip to hook into, slot (7) to enable second strap to be secured to belt or harness to maintain desired position on thigh, fishing rod butt receptacle (8) protruding at an angle from curved plate (2) with flared outer end (9) and provided with transverse pin (10) therein for slots in fishing rod butt end to stop fishing rod from twisting.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

Fishing Rod Support Holder

Hereby declare the invention of which I pray that a patent may be granted to me and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement.

This invention relates to a fishing rod support especially suitable for game fishing, general boat fishing and surf-casting.

For such activities not using a fishing rod support, anglers may put the butt of the fishing rod under one arm to anchor the rod. They may also stick the butt end of the rod into the side of one leg beside their groin. Both methods are extremely uncomfortable and not desirable for the physical well being of the angler as bruising and straining muscles often is the result of practising these methods and may result in unnecessary injuries.

Previous attempts to overcome these problems was to provide a rod support apparatus that was plastic, leather or other material that is strapped to the waist of an angler with the receptacle being placed in front of the groin of an angler.

While providing an apparatus that is removing the risk of bruising and making playing a fish some what easier it is creating other problems. As when the butt of the rod is placed in a receptacle in the centre of the angler's body and placed where the groin is, the angler's feet are parallel to each other making the angler unstable on his feet especially in choppy conditions.

With the rod placed in the centre of the angler's body, the arms of the angler must go to the centre of the body which is an unnatural position and strains the anglers arms mainly the arm that is anchoring the rod. When the rod is placed in the centre of the angler's body, tremendous pressure and strain is placed on the lower back. The back becomes a winch resulting in unnecessary injuries.

The object of the present invention is to provide a rod holder that is strapped to the thigh either left thigh or right thigh at a height desired by the angler. This is so the angler can place the desired foot and leg in front of him in a stance that gives him stability and transferring the weight and strain from his lower back to his thigh which is a much stronger part of the body and placing the angler's arm which is taking all the weight in a much more natural position, parallel to the leg that has the rod holder attached to, making the angler much more stable on his feet, much more comfortable and considerably reducing the risk of injuries to the lower back and arms.

A curved plate as to fit the shape of the thigh as in Fig. 2.

Two slots to enable straps to be secured to the thigh plate. The strap goes through one slot over and back through the other slot to secure it to the apparatus as shown in Fig 3.

A return on the edge of the thigh plate opposing slots Fig 3, so a buckle can hook on to it with the other end of the securing strap. This is to secure the apparatus in position on the thigh as shown in Fig.4.

Two slots for the buckle and clip, to hook into, to stop the rod holder and buckle sliding apart and detaching themselves from each other as shown in Fig 5. and 6.

A slot at the top of the thigh plate to enable a strap to be secured to a belt or harness on the angler to maintain desire positioning as in the height on the thigh as shown in Fig 7.

Receptacle: A half round channel protruding from the thigh plate, large enough to accept the butt of a fishing rod and contain the butt, stopping it from sliding out. Positioning at a desirable angle so as the angler can move the rod up and down in an arc at different inclinations as shown in Fig 8.

The semi circular tubing the butt receptacle has the outer end flared out as shown in Fig 9.

A transverse pin for the slots in the end of the fishing rod butt, to be located so as to stop the rod twisting, as shown in Fig 10.

The devise will be constructed of three different materials. They will be the same design. The three different materials will cater for the angler's preference, Eg. Aluminium, Stainless Steel and Plastic.

Thus the thigh plate is formed into a curved shape with slots at the extremities for the straps. At the top of the thigh plate it will have another slot for a small strap to fasten to the angler's belt or harness to help hold the apparatus at a desired height on the thigh.

The inside of the convexed thigh plate is lined with a closed cell foam or rubber with a non-slip exterior surface.

Fastening the thigh plate/rod holder to the thigh will be by way of three options for the angler to chose from.

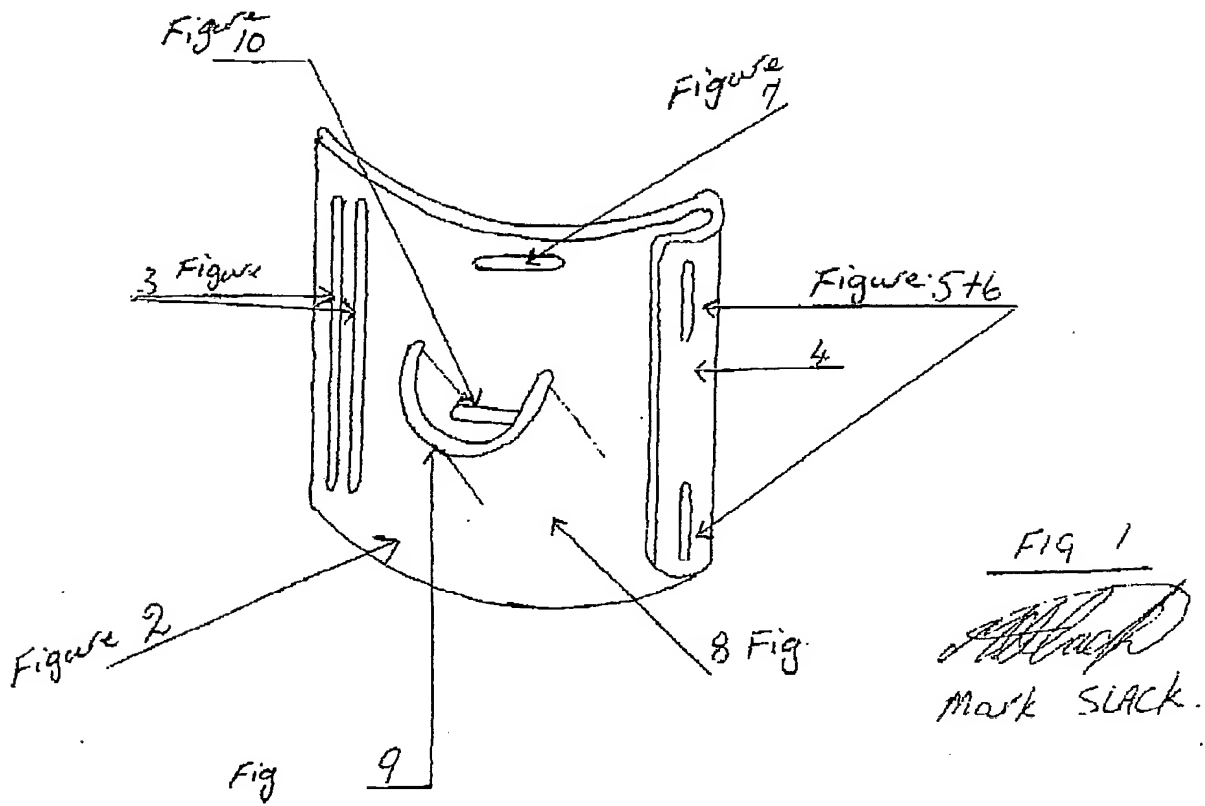
Straps: Velcro strapping, elastic strapping or nylon webbing. They will be secured by way of a buckle and clip.

The piece of semi-circular tubing will be inclined at approximately 60° to the plate and which is secured to the plate with the open side facing upwards.

There is a transverse pin across the half round channel on which the slots in the butt of the fishing rod are located to prevent twisting of the rod.

1. What I claim is a fishing rod support apparatus, which is strapped to the thigh, it is convexed to suit the shape of the thigh, it is padded for comfort and non-slip and also buoyancy should it fall in the water.
2. The rod support will have a slot at the top of it to attach a strap and buckle to either the angler's belt or harness to eliminate the rod holder sliding down the thigh. It will be secured to the thigh by way of elastic strapping or webbing or velcro with a buckle and clip.
3. Rod holder support as claimed in 1 or 2.
Where in the Rod support is fitted to the thigh and provided with webbing and buckle at the top to secure to a belt or harness also with elastic or webbing and buckle and clip to secure to thigh.

4. A Rod holder as claimed in any preceding claim wherein there are rod holder strapped to the thigh.
5. A Rod holder as claimed in 4, which the item is a rod holder strapped to the thigh.
6. A Rod holder substantially described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings.



Sheet No.

Box No. VIII (v) DECLARATION: NON-PREJUDICIAL DISCLOSURES OR EXCEPTIONS TO LACK OF NOVELTY
The declaration must conform to the standardized wording provided for in Section 215; see Notes to Boxes Nos. VIII, VIII (i) to (v) (in general) and the specific Notes to Box No. VIII (v). If this Box is not used, this sheet should not be included in the request.

Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rules 4.17(v) and 51bis.1(a)(v)):

I MARK SLACK IN RELATION TO THIS INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION
DECLARES THAT THE SUBJECT MATTER CLAIMED IN THIS
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION WAS DISCLOSED AS FOLLOWS 6--11-2000
PATENT NO 507956 TO THE NEW ZEALAND PATENT OFFICE



☐ This declaration is continued on the following sheet, "Continuation of Box No. VIII (v)".

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ01/00242

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER												
Int. Cl. ⁷ : A01K 97/10, 97/00												
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC												
B. FIELDS SEARCHED												
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)												
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched												
AU: IPC A01K 97/10, 97/00												
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)												
DWPI: IPC A01K 97/10, 97/00												
USPTO: Class 43/21.2 and (thigh or leg)												
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT												
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.										
X, Y	GB 1601116 A (OSBORNE) 28 October 1981 Whole document	1-5										
X, Y	US Design 335031 (RESNIK et al) 27 April 1993 Whole document	1-5										
Y	US 3920207 A (ADAMAITIS) 18 November 1975 Figures and abstract	1-5										
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex												
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</td> <td>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&" document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention	"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone	"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/NZ01/00242

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5511336 A (BISHOP) 30 April 1996 Figure 6 and column 3 lines 38-40	1-5
Y	AU 41140/99 (721134) B (TAYLOR'S BEACH PTY. LTD.) 20 June 200 Figure and page 4 lines 3-7	1-5
A	US 4858364 A (BUTTS) 22 August 1989 Figures 2, 6 and column 2 lines 26-33 describe a twist-preventing pin	
A	US 4817323 A (BRAID) 4 April 1989 Figure 2, column 3 lines 60-65 and column 4 lines 2-4 describe a twist-preventing pin	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/NZ01/00242

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report			Patent Family Member			
GB	1601116	NONE				
US	D335031	NONE				
US	3920207	NONE				
US	5511336	AU 22109/95	CA 2187632	WO 9527393		
AU	41140/99	US 6269990				
US	4817323	NONE				
US	4858364	NONE				
						END OF ANNEX